



Above: Spring Peeper © Georgia Gwinnett College, 2013. The Spring Peeper is the most common frog in Howard County. You have probably heard the high-pitched mating call of hundreds of spring peepers calling in chorus on spring evenings!

The mission of Howard County Recreation & Parks is to responsibly manage natural resources; provide excellent parks, facilities, and recreation opportunities for the community; and ensure the highest quality of life for current and future generations. The Department strives to deliver recreation and leisure opportunities that will improve the health and well-being of the community and to serve as model stewards of the environment by managing, protecting, and conserving our resources for a sustainable future.



Above: Spotted turtle © Toronto Zoo Adopt-a-Pond Species Guides. One of the least common turtle species in Howard County, the spotted turtle is found in vernal pools in the early spring, feasting on tadpoles and salamander larvae.

This checklist draws on data collected from 2010-2013 for the Maryland Amphibian & Reptile Atlas (MARA). MARA seeks to investigate amphibian and reptile species distribution. Volunteers document amphibian and reptile sightings and report them to the County Coordinator. Data from the 2010-2014 survey will be compared to the outcomes of subsequent surveys scheduled to take place every 20 years. Further information, including the results of the Maryland Amphibian and Reptile Atlas can be found at <http://howardbirds.org/herpatlas/index-MARA.htm>.

To participate in MARA, contact Sue Muller (smuller@howardcountymd.gov).

Compiled by Clarissa J. Rous, intern for Howard County Recreation & Parks, Natural Resources Division.

Cover photo: Ring-necked Snake, © Mark W. Peacock, 2008



Howard County
RECREATION & PARKS
NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION



Peacock

Howard County Amphibian and Reptile Checklist

Abundant

FROGS

- ☐ Pickerel Frog
- ☐ Spring Peeper
- ☐ American Bullfrog
- ☐ N. Green Frog
- ☐ Wood Frog
- ☐ Cope's Gray Treefrog
- ☐ Gray Treefrog

TOADS

- ☐ American Toad

SALAMANDERS

- ☐ E. Red-backed Salamander
- ☐ N. Two-lined Salamander
- ☐ N. Dusky Salamander
- ☐ N. Red Salamander
- ☐ Spotted Salamander

SNAKES

- ☐ E. Ratsnake
- ☐ E. Gartersnake
- ☐ N. Ring-necked Snake
- ☐ N. Watersnake
- ☐ N. Brownsnake

TURTLES

- ☐ E. Box Turtle
- ☐ E. Painted Turtle
- ☐ E. Snapping Turtle

Common

TOADS

- ☐ Fowler's Toad

SALAMANDERS

- ☐ Red-spotted Newt

SNAKES

- ☐ N. Black Racer
- ☐ E. Wormsnake

TURTLES

- ☐ Red-eared Slider*

Even though some species are "Abundant" or "Common," they inhabit specialized niches (under rotting tree trunks, along stream banks, bottom of ponds , etc.) and are unlikely to be casually observed on a hike.

*Indicates a species that is not native to Maryland but has been observed breeding in Howard County.

INTRODUCED SPECIES (only one found, no evidence of breeding)

Squirrel Treefrog

Alligator Snapping Turtle

NEVER release a pet into the wild - they can do serious harm to the native ecosystem!

Uncommon

FROGS

- ☐ S. Leopard Frog
- ☐ Green Treefrog

SALAMANDERS

- ☐ Long-tailed Salamander
- ☐ Four-toed Salamander
- ☐ Marbled Salamander
- ☐ N. Spring Salamander
- ☐ N. Slimy Salamander

SNAKES

- ☐ E. Hog-nosed Snake
- ☐ N. Copperhead
- ☐ E. Milksnake
- ☐ E. Smooth Earthsnake
- ☐ N. Rough Greensnake
- ☐ E. Kingsnake
- ☐ Queensnake
- ☐ N. Scarletsnake

LIZARDS

- ☐ Common Five-lined Skink

TURTLES

- ☐ N. Red-bellied Cooter
- ☐ Spotted Turtle
- ☐ False Map Turtle*
- ☐ E. Musk Turtle